

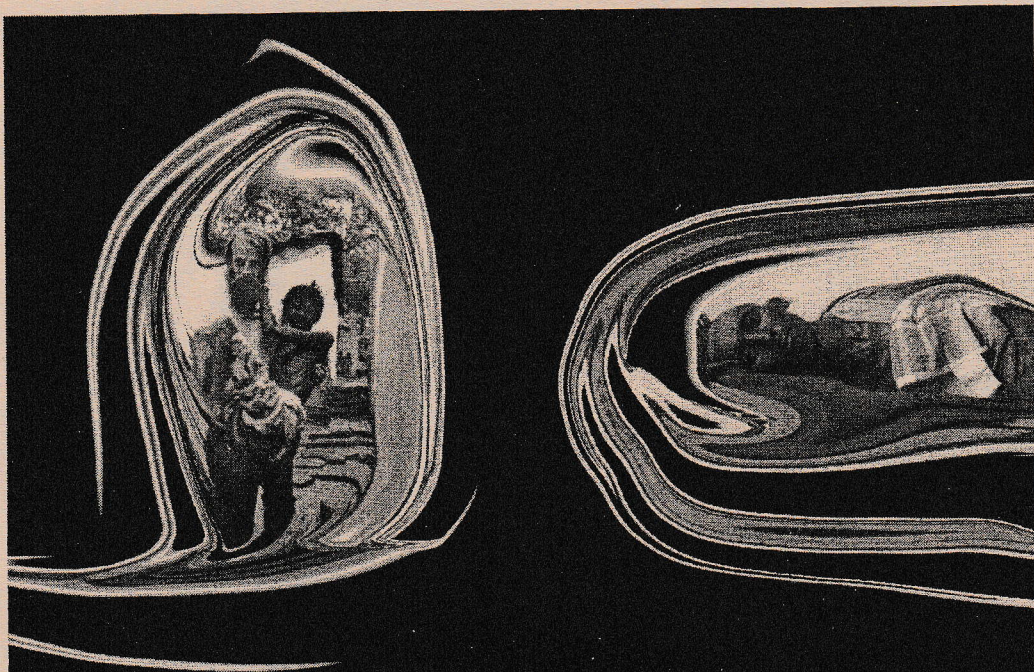
WOL on the street
magazine

issue 10

?

Emotions

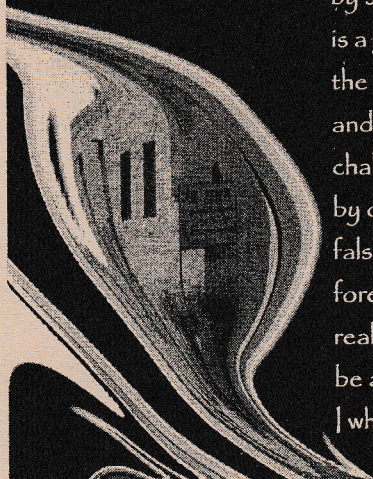
-like a broken compass
they'll get you lost
while making you think
you are headed in the
right direction.



A VIEW OF LOVE



"Often I hear the question: 'Is it hard to be always surrounded by suffering, poverty, sickness and death?' 'No', I say to that. It is a great privilege, it is an honor to serve the poor, the dying, the mentally retarded, the lame, the HIV-junkie. The murderer and thief, young and old. It is by serving these that you are truly challenged in love. A selfless love only Jesus can give. Faced by our own lack of love; when you meet your selfish self; the false identity in which we adorn ourselves, we become quiet before God, repent and desire to grow in perfect love. Then we really learn to see those around us in a clear perception and will be able to love them with the love of God. Then it is not longer I who lives, but Jesus in me." ton snellaert the delhi house



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Word *on the street*

is a quarterly publication of Street Level Ministries, a UW-Stout student organization. Want to know more? Check out our website-

www.streetlevel.uwstout.edu
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Emotion or TRUTH

As the rain crashes against the front windshield, tears drop to the collar of my coat and rest uncomfortably against my neck. But the tears do not purge me of the pain. They only drive me deeper into sorrow. Why is God allowing *this* to happen to me? With a sudden flush of confusion and anger, I slam my bruised fist against the steering wheel...then sit back, fix my eyes on the gray sheets falling before me, and consider.

Am I working out my anger here, or just making things worse?

Really...why do I repeatedly put my soul into a prison of desire and want?

I mean, how does something so seemingly "innocent" as love transform me into this vessel of emptiness? There seems to be nothing but walls of bitterness and desolation on all sides.

The result is always the same...why do I not heed the warnings?

An illuminating bolt in the night sky terminates my unanswered conjectures. God's fury rages once more in the heavens above. As the sky returns to its gray void, an all too familiar "thumping" begins to make itself known to the bruised flesh of my right hand. My eyes are instinctively drawn to the sides of the steering wheel where my palms rest. Though the sunset is several hours past, the street lights glisten off of the small cuts surrounding my swelling knuckles. But there is

nothing...there is no feeling outside of the racing rhythm of the vessels within my flesh. My skin has been broken and bruised before. It has learned to callous itself in defense. If only my heart would follow suit. I can do nothing but drive on. More tears skid down my cheek and drop to the shoulder of my coat. The questions return, this time with fervor.

Why was I shown so many signs and promises concerning love?

Is "God" playing games with me as some kind of sick joke?

Why did He finally give me love, only to leave my entire body desolate and iced over?

Is *this* what life is about... is *this* worth it? Is "God" worth *this*?

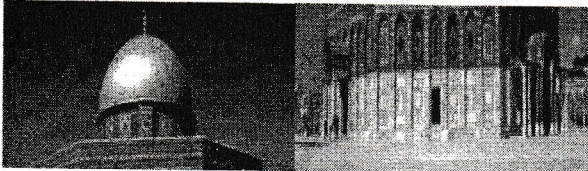
Is God worth *this*? Many of us find our emotions in such a state of disrepair that we can't help but bring accusation before God. I mean, after all, what kind of "God" would allow so many of his people to suffer such turmoil, time and time again? Really, what kind of God *would* he be?

If he is the God of Buddha, then there *is* a way out of the pain and suffering. Certainly



Sidhartha and other various prodigies have laid a foundation to freedom. I mean, what better plan could there be than to numb our bodies from the hell that this world dishes out? In

fact, if we follow the Eight-Fold Path and all the wisdom that is declared under their teaching, we would eventually reach a state of complete numbness to this world. We would cease to exist in a world created for turmoil. We would be free.



What if our God was the God of Mohammad? We would have a specific road map on how to reach God and find "the answer" for ourselves. In fact, the Quran details how we are to live our life in such precision, that we would not only know how to love, but we would also know how to make our meals, how to dress, how to work, and how to rest². Other volumes, such as the *sunnah*², have been written to further describe the teachings of Islam. None of our questions would remain unanswered. If we just lived according to this law, regardless of our emotions, our love would be made known in our obedience, right? We might some day replace our emotion with obedience, and make ourselves acceptable in God's sight by our deeds.

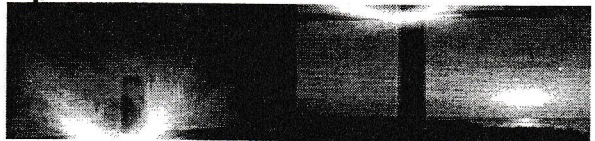
Better yet, what if there was no God? If we just lived our individual lives to the fullest, even through rough times, we could learn to take the best from each situation and move on. While young, we could express our love by giving our bodies and souls to someone or something that would receive us and give us pleasure. As we grow old, we could modify our lives and give ourselves to something that better suits our desires. What comes later really doesn't matter because this life is lived here and now, not in some "eternal kingdom."

We have to admit, all of these gods (or an entire lack of a god) provide a way out of the pain. We need an escape from the toils of this world and any option will do, right? But what if we want more than a peaceful numbness to this world? Or what if we've tried obedience, but desire something more personal and intimate? What if we're tired of living for the

moment and tasting the dirt as we fall face first onto the ground? Maybe we are so beaten and torn that we need a different kind of love to touch us. And maybe Someone could know us perfectly and desire to please us in a way that doesn't leave us abused and naked. And maybe His love could take us as we are, broken and shattered, and piece us together in His gentle hands. What if there was a God who loved like this?

Well...at one time there was a man that claimed to be God himself³. He claimed his relationship with us is based on *his love for us*, not our love for him⁴. He doesn't even want us to focus on our obedience at all, but on the needs of others, trusting that he will work things out⁵. He promised that he would never disappoint our brokenness...that he would rather fill our hearts with his own love⁶. He told us that *nothing* (not death, not troubles, not even our own sin) could separate us from his love⁷.

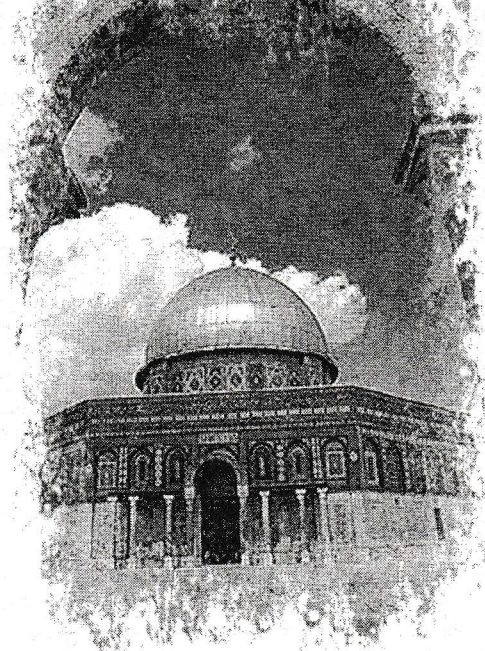
If you need this kind of love...if you need this kind of healing...you may want to consider this God. His name is Jesus. He can wipe away your tears with His soft touch and calm your racing heart with His gentle words. He wants you to know how much He cares for you. You can ask Him to show you or you can read about Him in the Bible. He is waiting for you.



References:

1. <http://members.tripod.com/adaniel/buddhism.htm>
2. <http://www.islam-guide.com/>
3. John 1:1-2,14 (Bible)
4. 1 John 4:10 (Bible)
5. Romans 13:8, Romans 4:13-16a, Romans 8:28 (Bible)
6. Romans 5:5, 8 (Bible)
7. Romans 8:35-39 (Bible)

THE MOSQUE, THE SYNAGOGUE, AND THE CHURCH



By David Brickner, Executive Director of Jews for Jesus

Have you noticed? Carefully selected clergy have presided over prayer meetings all across America in the wake of the terrorist tragedy of September 11. Many organizers for such meetings have made a point of having Muslim, Jewish, and Christian leaders standing side by side.

Efforts to present a united front against terrorism have renewed a sense of "civic religion" in America. There is a general feeling that Islam, Judaism and Christianity must set aside their differences, if we are to work together under a benevolent democracy for the common good. This is the "big tent" philosophy of religious pluralism.

Thank God that the United States has long recognized the place of religion in

the public square, where people of various views are independent of one another. But the force of recent events has pushed us a step further toward a melding of spirituality, a yoking together of various traditions under an one "acceptable" religious/social voice.

If you feel uneasy over this new wave of religious "unity," it is for good reason. Pluralism in its best sense means that people recognize the rights of others to believe differently than they do, so that we co-exist peacefully despite our differences. But the kind of religious pluralism that presents itself today insists that various religions are really not so differen –

or that if they are, the differences don't matter because a. we can't know what is ultimately true, or b. there is more than one ultimate truth, or c. there is no ultimate truth. This is not merely pluralism, it is a religion *of* pluralism spurred on by the dogma of today's tolerance. And frankly there's nothing as *intolerant* as today's wacky strain of "tolerance."

Religious tolerance ought to mean that people are free, not only to hold opposing points of view, but also to argue peaceably for their viewpoint without fear of retribution. But religious tolerance has deteriorated into a shrill insistence that anyone who challenges another person's belief– no matter how peaceably or respectfully– is intolerant. The religion of pluralism with its doctrine of tolerance condemns those it deems "intolerant" with precious little respect or compassion. With its lack of patience for the concept of absolute truth and its high praise for a blurring of distinctions,

the deeply disturbing implications of this trend are syncretism and universalism.

Religious syncretism, the blending of differing– and often conflicting– religious beliefs, is a distortion of tolerance, as is universalism, the doctrine that all people will eventually be saved regardless of their religious convictions. Today's new religious pluralism is a strange mélange of syncretism *and* universalism. Yet this "new" pluralism is an age-old problem.

In ancient Israel, syncretism led to the downfall of the nation of Israel and to God's judgment on the people of Judah. The Jewish people were worshipping the God of Israel at the Temple in Jerusalem, while at the same time sacrificing to the gods of the Canaanites on the hillsides. These religious systems were diametrically opposed, theologically as well as ethically. Yet many Israelites tried to embrace it all. They didn't see the contradictions. Such ancient syncretism is often looked on today as primitive, but these religious chameleons were the true modernists of their time. They had the same spirit as today's religious pluralists who hold that all religious sentiment is good, as long as it doesn't hurt others or make exclusive claims.

In the wake of recent events many today are seeking to embrace Islam along with other world religions, experimenting with inclusive forms of worship in order to show tolerance toward all religious views. They argue, "Why cannot Islam, Judaism, and Christianity hold hands together in our new global environment? After all, these three faiths share a common commitment to monotheism, a belief in one God, as well as many other shared values. If we all believe in the same God then those things that divide us are minor, secondary, unimportant. Joining hands can only further those shared values and help bring peace to the world."

The answer to this is twofold. First, there is no reason we cannot respect people and treat them with dignity and compassion while strongly disagreeing with their beliefs. The world recognizes that people have always used religious beliefs to justify sinful acts against those who believe differently than they do. And the world wrongly deduces that this sinful behavior somehow stems from believing deeply in any religion.

The second part of the answer is that while all three faiths claim belief in one God, that one God never said He is approachable through three faiths. In fact, "faith" is a misnomer for religious beliefs. What does Ephesians 4 say? "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, **one faith**, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift" (verses 4-7).

As for Islam, its central tenet is, "There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his prophet." Both Judaism and Christianity reject this assertion. Neither faith accepts Muhammad as a prophet or the Koran as holy writ. What is more, Islam has little capacity to tolerate a sovereign Jewish state in the Middle East. Muslims the world over will always be fundamentally opposed to Israel.

Islam and Judaism, on the other hand, deny Jesus' claim to be the one true Messiah, and reject the New Testament as holy writ. Both religions are strongly opposed to the Christian duty of evangelism and proclamation of the gospel. Efforts to offer Jews and Muslims the gospel are frequently met with anger and, in Muslim countries, often with violence.

We cannot paper over these basic differences or pretend they don't exist. But that is what secularists and religious pluralists do. In fact, they say, it is not these three religions that are bad, but

ignoring the fact that these three religions teach something very different about the one person who is the key to lasting peace. That person is Jesus.

Those who try to establish a new syncretistic, universalistic religion may be very well-intentioned, but there can be no real peace apart from truth. It is a failing of human nature to believe we can make our own truth, and from the failing come wars, within and without.

We should be concerned about the rush of so many who ought to know better to join hands with neo-pluralists in pursuing a one-world religion. Those who claim to follow Jesus yet agree that all the great religions are on the same path not only deceive themselves, but they also encourage others to continue on toward a Christless eternity.

As Jews For Jesus missionaries stand out on the streets proclaiming the good news of the gospel, we often have opportunities to meet people who

CAN ISLAM, JUDAISM,

HOLD HANDS TOGETHER IN OUR



AND CHRISTIANITY

NEW GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT?

Faith is not merely a belief. Faith is a *true* belief attached to a reality, *the* reality. What does the New Testament teach about that reality? "No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also" (1 John 2:23).

We should not disrespect the people who seek to follow the religions of Judaism or Islam, but we need to remember that both deny that Jesus is the Messiah; therefore both are false according to Scripture, since neither "has the Father." (Although we are Jews, we Jews for Jesus do not claim to follow the religion taught by rabbis who do not know Jesus, nor do we define our Jewishness according to the majority opinion of our fellow Jews.)

the fundamentalists from each who cause all the trouble. And they paint fundamentalists with a very broad stroke. That is, any belief in the exclusive claims of one religious view over another is fundamentalism—and the fundamentalist is one step away from becoming a terrorist.

Andrew Sullivan encapsulated this sentiment in an article in the *New York Times* Magazine, asserting, "It seems as if there is something inherent in religious monotheism that lends itself to terrorist temptation."

We can hope and pray for Muslims, Christians and Jews to treat one another with respect, and we should certainly treat all people as precious in God's sight. But we will not end terrorism by

attend synagogues and mosques. They frequently engage us in vigorous debate and discussion about who God is and whether or not Jesus is the Messiah. That debate must continue. If those on a crusade to stop the debate gain the upper hand, freedom of religion will truly be lost. Ephesians 4:14,15 urges us, "that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, and in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, **speaking the truth in love** ... grow up in all things into Him who is the head—the Messiah ..."

Source: Jews for Jesus volume 5:5762
January 2002
www.jewsforjesus.org

What's The Good Word?

our student poll • what do they think?

Q: From what you know of the Bible, what do you have to do in order to go to hell?



Matt- "If you don't believe you go to purgatory. But if you don't repent you would go to hell."



Aaron- "I believe the hell which is experienced is made out of crucial intent. When we stop deciding to live in fear and turn to love, there will be not hell."



Rachel- "As long as you were baptized and believed in God and Jesus you would not go to hell."

A: The truth is... God gave the Israelites the Ten Commandments in chapter 20 of the book of Exodus. These laws were given as a contract before Jesus came and was crucified. If the people obeyed, then they would be God's own special treasure and would be a kingdom of priests. (Exodus 19:5-6) However, they failed (2 Kings 17:7) and the truth is that none of us can ever be made right only by obeying the Ten Commandments. James 2:10 states, "And the person who keeps all of the laws except one is as guilty as the person who has broken all of God's laws." Also, Jesus said that if you hate your brother you are guilty of murder, and if you even look at another woman with sexual lust you are guilty of adultery. (Matthew 5:22,28)

The Bible also says that all have sinned and have fallen short of the Glory of God (Romans 3:23) and that all of our righteousness is like filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6). This means that we cannot have enough "good works" in order to please God. So does this mean that we are doomed to hell which the Bible describes as "weeping and gnashing of teeth", "unquenchable fire", and eternal separation from God? (Matthew 13:42, 18:8) No, God has provided us a way to have a new life through Jesus Christ. Now the only way a person will go to Hell is if they refuse to accept Jesus Christ as their personal savior. (Revelation 20:15, Mark 3:29) Romans 10:9 states, "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." Salvation is not about doing good works, but it is a free gift that God is offering to each one of us through his son Jesus. (Romans 5:15) It does not matter who you are or what you have done: "No matter how deep the stain of your sins, I can remove it. I can make you as clean as freshly fallen snow. Even if you are stained as red as crimson, I can make you as white as wool." (Isaiah 1:18)

God is full of love for you and that is why He gave up His life. He not only gave His life, but He left us his Holy Spirit as our comforter who guides us in all truth. (John 14:16, 16:13) He longs to have a relationship with you and that is why it is important that we all read the Bible for ourselves and have our own relationship with Jesus. Dig into the Bible, read of the promises that He has made to us, and you won't have to wonder anymore what will happen when you die. "Whether we are high above the sky or in the deepest ocean, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:39)



Justin- "Disobey the Ten Commandments."



Suzie- "If you kill someone out of spite or jealousy."



Tai- "Breaking the commandments."



Bonnie- "The people who don't accept Jesus Christ as their personal savior."

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you? A complete and total
gentleman who will wait for
you and not be forceful? Are
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fulfillment?
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land with a guarantee of
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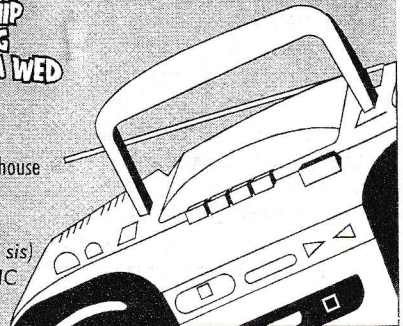
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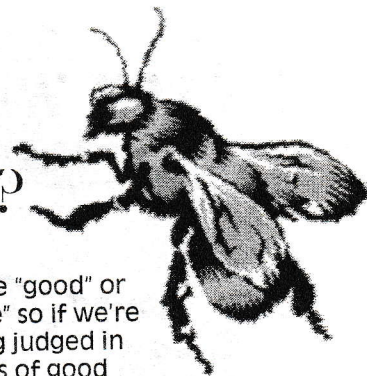
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ARE YOU GOOD ENOUGH?



About a month ago, I read an interview in "Reader's Digest" with the infamous Muhammad Ali. The purpose of the interview was to discuss the new film *Ali*, based upon his life, which debuted in theaters this past Christmas. The interview consisted of much more than Ali's opinion of the movie, though. He also discussed his country, his family, and his faith. But as I was reading, something he said disturbed me to the point of tears and made me want to call him up on the phone and tell him the truth.

When asked what his faith meant to him, Ali responded, "...[It] means [a] ticket to heaven. One day we're all going to die, and God's going to judge us, [our] good and bad deeds. [If the] bad outweighs the good, you go to hell; if the good outweighs the bad, you go to heaven." Ali, who converted to the Muslim religion in 1964, thinks that he will go to heaven or hell based

upon his good and bad works. Reading this made me cry because this man, who is 60 years old and dying

of Parkinson's Disease, honestly believes that he can go to heaven as long as his good outweighs his bad. This especially touched my heart because it hit so close to home. I did not grow up as a Muslim, but I grew up being taught the very same thing. For many years of my life, I sincerely and wholeheartedly believed that if I was a "good enough" person and my good outweighed my bad, I would get to go to heaven. Although this idea of a scale with your good works on

...the way to heaven
is not by our own way
or our own deeds,
but through God's Son, Jesus.

one side and your bad works on the other side is seen and taught almost everywhere--movies, television, schools, churches--it is not the truth and it's a misconception that can send a person to hell. The Bible says that "all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23) This means that none of

us are "good" or "pure" so if we're being judged in terms of good versus bad, we've already lost. Or, as the popular phrase puts it, "No one's perfect." But that's why God sent His Son Jesus into the world. John 3:16-17 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." What this is saying is that the way to heaven is not by our own way or our own deeds, but through God's Son, Jesus. And furthermore, the Bible states that this is the *only* way to go to heaven. John 14:6 says, "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'"

One of the clearest passages in the Bible that refutes what Ali said is in Ephesians 2:8-9. It says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." It is not about us and what we do. It is about what

Jesus has already done for us by dying on the cross. He took all of our sins upon Himself so that we could be made right in God's sight through Him. There's only one thing that we need to do to go to heaven: believe on Jesus Christ.

If going to heaven or hell is based upon all of our good and bad deeds, then we'd have to wait until we were dead to find out if we made it to heaven. Then we live in a constant state where we can only say, "I hope I go to heaven," when someone asks us if we know where we're going when we die. But the Bible says that you can *know* you're going to heaven. 1 John 5:13 says, "These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you many know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God." Wouldn't you like to live your life knowing that you are going to heaven when you die instead of having to gamble?

I want so badly to be able to share this with Muhammad Ali and to expose the lie that he's been taught. I want to do this so that he *can* receive eternal life and go to heaven instead of realizing the truth after it's too late. But if I can't share it with him personally, I can share it with others around me and they can in turn share with others around them. Please don't waste your whole life trying to achieve something you never can. Please just accept the gift of love that God wants to give you through accepting His Son Jesus.

Reference:
 Reader's Digest
 Dec. .2001
 "Face to Face with Muhammad Ali"
 pgs. 90-97



The Blind Munchies is a non-profit, non-cheese-ball, cool Jesus hangout. Decked out in antiques and old furniture, we believe you'll find the atmosphere groovy. It is a smoking establishment with pool table, live rock concerts, and bible studies.

Drop by and visit us, if you dare!

Spring Concert Schedule:

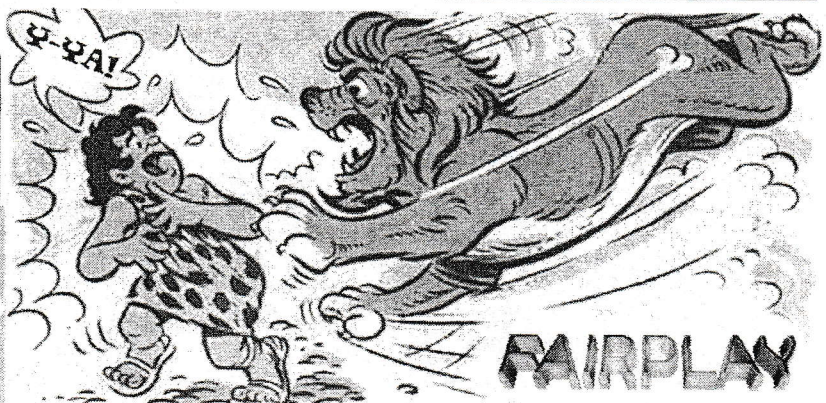
Jan 25th St. Andrew's Descent - Alt
 Feb 8th Angry Atom - Punk
 Mar 1st Mitch McVicker - Acoustic
 Apr 5th Big Fat Jam - *Graave Rock*
 May 3th Beki Hemingway - Alt/Pop

Bible Study Schedule:

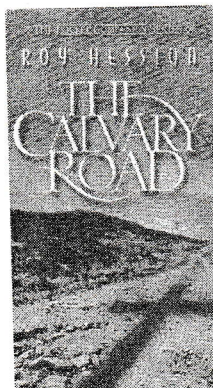
Wed 10:30am: Women's Bible Study
 Wed 7:00pm: Underground Study

We're on the web at:
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 Chicken to see who we are?

Hey There!
 Do YOU ever feel
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 "to an fro" by one o'
 satan's little Kitties?



[{The Book Review}]



The Calvary Road

Are you up for a challenge? I thought I needed one, so even though I was a little apprehensive, I plunged into a book entitled *The Calvary Road* by Roy Hession. This

short book is only about 100 pages long, but don't mistake that as being an indicator of its content. This book has so much jam-packed into it, that I know I will be reading it again soon—very soon. There is so much to digest. It's one of those books that makes you think as you read. It's not like a story that you just read straight through, but more of a chapter-by-chapter book. It describes the life that Jesus lived, the life that led Him to a hill called Calvary where He was crucified for our sins, and uses it as a basis as to how we are to live.

The short chapters cover things like how we are to act toward others. It speaks a lot about what it means to love others. Hession constantly compares our lives to how Jesus lived.

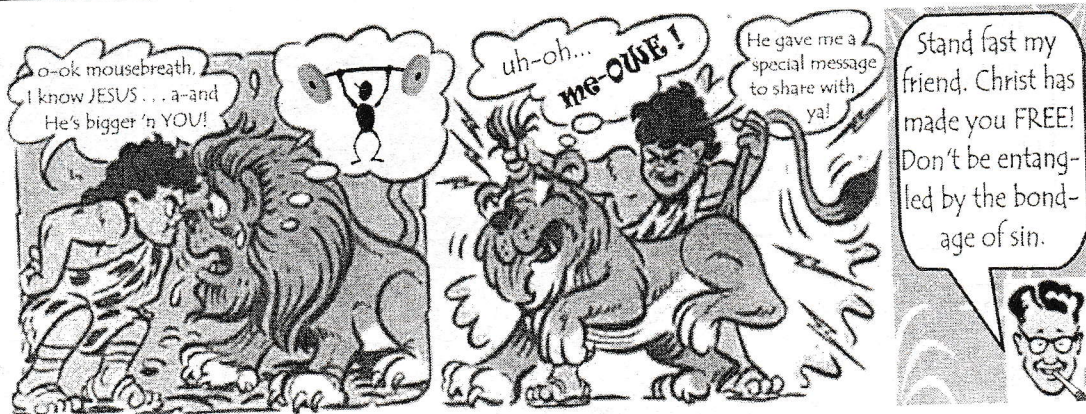
We need to try and be as much like Jesus as possible. He says some hard-hitting things when he speaks of shyness, self-consciousness, reserve, and worry. He says that they are all sin because they spring out of our self and are not how Jesus lived. Jesus didn't ever live for Himself. Jesus said that worrying doesn't ever do anything to help a situation and Jesus wasn't shy. He couldn't afford to be. He was always out sharing the love of His Father with people. He was always loving people and didn't take the time to think about how He felt or what He wanted. He cared about other people and what others wanted. The book really hits hard on the little things that we do and say that many of us claim are just our "personality." We say, "Well, I just don't like meeting or talking to people I don't know. That's just who I am." Hession says that it's sin. Any time we are not doing something in total love, according to what God tells us to do, we're going against the will of God, which is sin. Some people have a concept that only "big" things like murder and adultery are sin, but if you take a closer look at the Bible, you'll see that sin is simply missing the mark, not doing something the way it's supposed to be done—something we all do quite frequently.

This isn't a book to hit us over the head and make us feel like awful, rotten people. Rather, it's a book that tries to help us come to terms with who we really are: sinners. And then it shows us who God wants us to be: sinners saved by Jesus Christ who are willing to give up everything of ourselves to know God more and be filled up by His love. Then, when we're filled up with His love, it will flow out of our lives to those around us.

Be careful when you decide to read this book. Do you want to be filled with God's love? Do you want God to show you the things in you that He wants to change so that He may use you?

Find this book and more at the Calvary Chapel Bookstore, located at 621 Wilson Ave. in Menomonie, WI, or call 235-9300 for more info or visit www.calvary.chapel.com/menomonie (click on the bookstore link)

The Calvary Road is published by Christian Literature Crusade and if you enjoy Roy Hession, check out some of his other works:
Good News for Bad People
We Would See Jesus
Be Filled Now





The Time Machine

Director: *Simon Wells*
 Based on the novel by H.G. Wells
 PG-13
 96 minutes
 **

Story

The movie begins with a young mathematician named Alexander Hartegen proposing to Emma, the beautiful, blonde love of his life. The proposal goes bad when a robber comes out of the bushes, demanding their money and jewelry. Emma is shot in the fight to keep her new engagement ring. Alexander is heartbroken and works the next four years of his life building a time machine to take him back to save his love. He succeeds in traveling back to the scene, but tragedy befalls Emma once again. Alexander is perplexed by the idea that no matter how many times he attempts to save her, it is inevitable that she dies. He then realizes there is nothing he can do to stop this hardship from happening. So he sets out on a quest to the future to find out why he cannot change the past. After being knocked unconscious, Alexander ends up 800,000 years in the future to a new, repopulated Earth, where humans have evolved into two different species: the peaceful Eloi, who live above ground, and the evil Morlocks who eat the Eloi. After being helped by an Eloi girl, Alexander decides to defend the people from the horrors of the Morlocks.

Message

Alexander thought that creating a time machine would alter his life for the better, but it ended up making him more confused and lost than he already was. Technology is a huge focus in the world today. Man is constantly creating things in an attempt to make life easier to handle. There is a huge hole in the heart of man, and it seems the world will do anything to try to fill it. When their attempts to make themselves happy fail, they just invent something bigger and better. But where does it end? It doesn't. Jesus is the only thing that will ever fill that bottomless hole in the hearts of all men. The satisfaction He brings is perfect and complete; it never dies out or fades away, for Jesus said, "I have been established from everlasting, from the

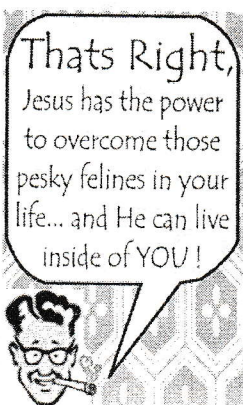
beginning, before there was ever an earth." (Proverbs 8:23) God is ultimately in control of every situation in life, and nothing the world creates or discovers is going to change His perfect plan. Like Alexander's urge to change his past, it seems to be a common view in this age to believe that man controls his own destiny. So often man tries to put everything in his own hands and change the facts of life when they do not go according to plan. God has a perfect plan for every person in this world. If we would accept God's will for our lives, we would realize that every hardship that occurs is preparing us for something greater in life.

Content

This wasn't the worst movie ever made, but it did have some major weaknesses. This was a typical time travel movie loosely based on the novel by H.G. Wells. I never knew what direction it was turning, so I must admit the movie kept me on the edge of my seat. The special effects were amazing as he traveled through time, witnessing the regeneration of the Earth over millions of years. Then comes the climax and ending, and the movie crumbles. 1) It has numerous climaxes so you don't know where the plot is really leading to, 2) The love story theme is forgotten, 3) The ending makes no sense, and 4) You leave the movie feeling very unsatisfied. It was not that I misunderstood what was happening, I just didn't understand why or how certain things happened. I give this movie a rating of two out of four stars only because of its awesome visuals.

The New Theater

It was a pretty cool experience going to the new theater. Menomonia has needed something exciting to draw people in for a long time. The tickets are cheaper compared to Eau Claire, which is an awesome bonus. I love the color scheme they've got going there from the outside structure, to the carpet, to the walls, to the bathrooms... you've got to see it to believe it. The individual theaters themselves all have stadium seating, so you don't have "Mister tall, dark, and handsome" blocking your view. The employees seemed friendly and eager to answer questions. It seems the only major downfall to the place was the women's room, 1) the bathroom stalls are all connected and any time someone opens one, they all rattle, 2) the first stall in the woman's room is not equipped with a toilet paper dispenser, and 3) there is only one soap dispenser at the end of a long line of sinks. Overall, it's a great place to see a movie and comes highly recommended.



That's Right,
 Jesus has the power
 to overcome those
 pesky felines in your
 life... and He can live
 inside of YOU!

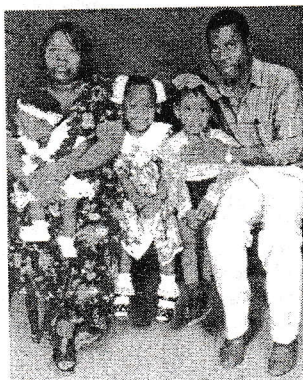


the mission field....

Lavaud Cheristin is the pastor of Calvary Chapel Hinche, one of many cities located on the island of Haiti in the Caribbean. Lavaud is also the founder of the Haiti school ministry, a school for the poor children in the city of Hinche. The school ministry opened in 1987 with only 17 students and now has over 1300 students. Lavaud and his wife's vision for the school is to share the message of Jesus Christ through education. In order to accomplish this vision they cultivate crops and raise pigs to sell as food and then use the money to sponsor the young children of witch doctors for their schooling.

Calvary Chapel Hinche also does outreaches to the community such as a feeding center and a garden ministry. Lavaud stated that the feeding center is a great opportunity to bring the message of Jesus Christ to the people who practice voodoo in the community. In their culture, the Catholic Church allows people to worship both God and Satan through voodoo and superstition. One man lost

all of his privileges from the Catholic priests because he accepted Jesus as his personal savior. Lavaud has a heart for the people in his community and he is dedicated to bringing them the message of salvation through Jesus Christ. He and his wife will be





speaking about the vision the Lord has given them to continue helping their people at *His Oasis*, a Christian music festival that is located in Plainfield, Wisconsin. It is the oldest Christian festival in Wisconsin and will be celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. In the past, all proceeds have gone to Gospel for Asia, providing missionaries with

bicycles, and supporting the building of a church in India. This year, all of the proceeds will go to support Calvary Chapel Hinche and their school ministry in order to help them attain their vision.

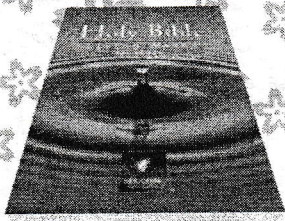
His Oasis is June 28 - 30th this year and there are no set prices for this event because they do not want to limit people from coming due to a lack of money or because of the size of their family. The Blind Munchies Coffeehouse of Menomonie will be packing up and heading there again this year. The Blind Munchies will be selling coffee, espresso drinks, and pop to help raise money for the festival and the ministry in Hinche, Haiti.

For more information on the festival you can go to www.hisoasis.com or www.streetlevel.uwstout.edu for more information on the Blind Munchies Coffeehouse.

Sources used:
www.hisoasis.com
 Calvary Chapel Hinche's Newsletter from Lavaud Cheristin

Get to know JESUS TODAY! Get the Word of God for FREE... and take victory in Him!



Name: _____

Address: _____


Email: _____

Check here for your free Bible.

Check here to get info about Street Level.

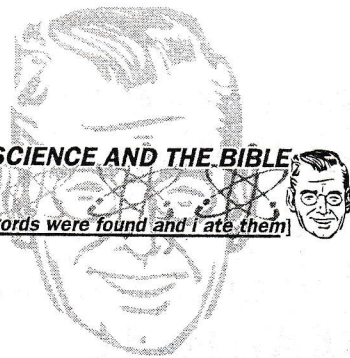
Email us: streetlevel@charter.net

Mail To: Street Level Ministries -- 621 Wilson Avenue -- Menomonie, WI 54751



*.feed SCIENCE AND THE BIBLE

Jeremiah-15:16 [your words were found and I ate them]



JUST WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?

Several years ago, I entered the higher education realm at UW-Stout. This was an interesting time in my life. It was a time of change for me. I had received more than what I had bargained for at Stout. Of course I discovered the house party scene and the various bars in town, but I also learned to start questioning things for the first time in my life.

I was encouraged by some of my professors to evaluate my beliefs. Did I believe something because someone told me to or did I believe something because it was backed up by evidence and/or my own convictions? It was time to evaluate my beliefs and determine why I held onto them. Coming from a Christian background, I was challenged to see my existence from different religious perspectives and science.

My instructors at Stout taught me how to

question everything. "Don't just take something at face value," they said. Well, I applied this to my life. For example, I believed that humans evolved from a primitive substance millions of years ago—I believed in evolution. I was introduced to evolution some time in junior high and I thought it seemed to make sense. After all, monkeys do look a lot like humans (two eyes, two arms, two legs, etc). Well, in my search for "truth," I found that there were others out there who believed differently... that there is a God who created everything and that nothing evolved (ape did not become man, fish did not become reptiles, etc.) Interestingly, in my research, I found all kinds of information about evolution that seemed to illustrate that it is scientifically impossible and has never been observed to occur in nature. If evolution is true, we should see it happening in our times. I found that many scientists are moving away from the evolutionary explanation of origins to the Intelligent Design Movement. The

Intelligent Design Movement is made up of scientists, not necessarily Christians, who believe in a Creator who made everything as it presently exists. I discarded my belief in evolution and warmed up to the idea of creation.

I was surprised to find out how many people were against the idea of creation. One of my friends, who stated he was an atheist, upon seeing the evidence for creation, stated that his whole atheistic belief was based on the "fact" of evolution, though he admitted that his belief in evolution did not have a strong foundation.

Why is it important to figure this stuff out? Well, there can be repercussions of a great magnitude if you are wrong with some subjects. If you hold to an evolutionary belief, you are then freed from responsibility of obeying a Creator. You evolved from a protein molecule with no soul, so you have no soul to be concerned with. When you die you go back to the dirt. But if you happen to believe that everything was created or designed, then you must conclude that there is a designer and that you are accountable to him. It's important then to find out what responsibilities you have to that Creator since you are the product of his hands. So you see how important a belief can be...it can alter the whole perspective of why you exist.

Continued on pg.15...

Dr. Kent Hovind

Street Level Spoken presents:

Dr. Kent Hovind will be speaking at the UW-Stout Memorial Student Center in

THE GREAT HALL

Monday April 22

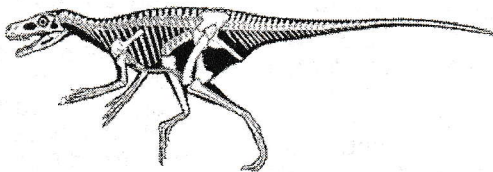
at 7pm



Doors open:

6pm for those with a student I.D.

6:30pm for the general public.



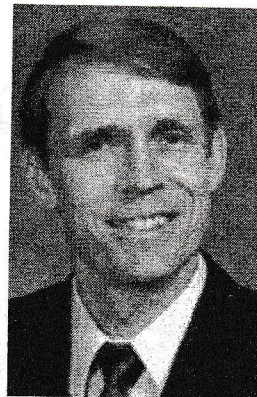
The focus of the discussion will center on the Evolution verses Creation debate.

A year ago over 200 college science professors from local colleges including Stout were approached to debate this issue with Dr. Hovind.

No one took the challenge.

If evolution is true, why won't anyone step up to the plate? The answer is, quite simply, that evolution is a lie. Check it out for yourself.

This discussion is free of charge and open to the entire student body. Don't be brainwashed. Check it out. See you there.



"Evolutionism is a religious worldview not supported by science, Scripture, popular opinion, or common sense. The exclusive teaching of this dangerous, mind-altering philosophy in tax-supported schools, parks, museums, etc. is a clear violation of the First Amendment."

--Dr. Kent Hovind



www.drduino.com

(continued from page 13)


Two years ago, UW-Stout had a Creation Lecturer, Kent Hovind, who offered a platform to debate evolution and creation. Over 200 invitations were sent out to instructors at UW-Stout, UW-Eau Claire, and UW-River Falls. Though most universities teach evolution as fact, not one instructor took the challenge to back up his or her beliefs on this subject. It was quite disturbing that the same instructors that challenged me, and no doubt other students, to question our beliefs had chosen not to back up their beliefs regarding evolution. We all have the freedom to believe what we want in this country. I think that all religions should be taught and evolution and creation should be taught side by side seeing as both are theory. Leave the decisions up to the students. It's important that you find the answers for yourself. Don't let someone else spoon-feed you.

I offer these last questions: When's the last time there was a debate on campus? When's the last time students marched for something they believed in?

**Kent Hovind will be at UW-Stout, Monday, April 22nd, 7:00pm in the Great Hall. If you are interested in debating, email Street Level at streetlevel@charter.net. Debate details can be viewed at: <http://www.drdino.com/cse.asp>?
pg=articles&specific=25**

B.A.S.E. Institute

**REVISITING
PAUL'S
"MIRACLE AT
MALTA"
BY
BOB CORNUKE**



Over the past year and a half, we at BASE Institute have been involved in painstaking research into Luke's amazing detailed account of Paul's voyage and shipwreck off the coast of Malta, as recorded in Acts 27. From the very beginning, I have felt that with enough research, biblical investigation, and on-site observation, we would stand a good chance of finding what no one to date has been able to find - the precise location of Paul's shipwreck along the coast of Malta.

Like many other traditions relating to biblical events, there is a traditionally held site for the location of Paul's shipwreck. This place is on the island of Malta in a body of water called "St. Paul's Bay," a tradition started by a priest in the 1500s but not supported in any way by historical evidence. The Bible, however, places the location of Paul's shipwreck in a different area

than the traditional site. As other research efforts of the BASE Institute have proven in the past, Bible history and tradition are often completely opposite from one another. As it turns out, Luke's careful record of the voyage and shipwreck argue convincingly against the traditional "St. Paul's Bay," where no artifacts have ever been found, though professionals have searched for them.

As I correlated all these facts, I realized that the four stern anchors of Paul's prisoner-laden cargo ship may well represent the best possibility in the world today of recovering an actual, physical object specifically mentioned in the pages of the Bible. Spurred on by the potential impact such a discovery could have on the issue of the Bible's historical accuracy, we at BASE drew on as many

Continued on pg.16...

experts as possible in analyzing all the weather patterns, maritime lore, sailing equipment and techniques, and details in Luke's account that could possibly lead us to the real wreck site of Paul's voyage - and, hopefully, to the massive lead anchor stocks I believed must be in the sea off one particular bay along the Maltese coast, just as Luke described it.

As more and more facts emerged from our investigation, the possible search areas became fewer and fewer, until by the time our search team made our most recent trip to Malta, we had narrowed down our target sites to just two relatively small areas.

Once on-site in Malta, our multiplied hours of research really began to pay off. Through an amazing series of "coincidences" on Malta, we located, interviewed, and went diving on-site with a local spearfisherman who several years ago stumbled across four lead anchor stocks in the precise location, and at the precise depth, our research had already predicted. Even more amazing, because he had no idea what he had found, the diver passed along one of the anchor stocks to a friend of the family - who now kept it on display in her local villa!

Having confirmed Luke's precise details of the anchors' location - a "bay with a

beach" (v. 39), a place where "two seas meet" (v. 41), the depth of "fifteen fathoms" (v. 28) - we then secured permission to examine the anchor stock itself. What we found was a classic first-century Roman anchor, as used on Alexandrian ships sailing on official Roman business in Paul's day. Then, with detailed photographs and videotapes in hand, we consulted a scholar from the local university, who confirmed what we already knew. The evidence we had personally discovered fit every detail of Luke's description of the anchors Paul's ship left in the sea.

Excitedly but deliberately, we took inventory. What had our expedition yielded? We and an impartial eyewitness to the existence of four Roman anchors in a location precisely matching the Bible's description. We had instrument readings showing they were left in the sea at the precise depth recorded by Luke. We had a shoreline matching every detail of the eyewitness account in Acts 27, including a bay with a beach, a location where "two seas meet," and a sloping reef between the anchor site and the shore. And - most important of all - we had photos and videotape of a physical, verifiable artifact which with all reasonable certainty we could identify as having been specifically mentioned in Scripture!

How had all this come about? Not by the cleverness of any individual, and certainly not by assuming that the Bible cannot be trusted. Rather, it had come about by taking the Bible at face value, using it as a "roadmap" to guide our research, and then stepping out in faith and putting its details to the test in a tangible way. As always, the Bible proved itself reliable and historically accurate.

There is much yet to do at Malta. In cooperation with the Maltese government, we want to return and do much more to verify the identity of the Roman anchor stock now at rest on the island. We are in the process of seeking the resources to move our search closer to shore from the anchor site in order to seek out verifiable artifacts from the shipwreck itself. And, again based on Luke's description in Acts, we believe we may have located the ruins of the inland Roman-style villa of Publius and his father, mentioned in Acts 28:7-8, which we would like to investigate further under Maltese oversight.

If Luke's account of a Roman shipwreck is so accurate that four anchors can be located nearly 2000 years later, how much more trustworthy is Luke's account of the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ?

Source: *The Baseline*, Bob Cornuke (Colorado Springs: Base Institute, 2001)

The Gathering

News from Steiger International

This is a brief report from Josh, who was on the team Nigel Houghten led to "The Gathering" two weeks ago. This big New Age festival in Nelson, New Zealand, attracts thousands of young people and is a very spiritually-charged. Most of those who attend are heavily into the dance culture and all that goes with it. A place that Jesus normally isn't even considered let alone presented in a positive way. So it was a huge miracle that they were able to speak about Jesus so boldly and even pray with some of the leaders of the event. What is even more exciting is that the organizers of the festival have invited us to come back next year. That's after bringing an uncompromising and clear message about Jesus. So don't believe the lie that you can't talk clearly about Jesus anywhere He asks you to go.

We hung a big banner up over our heads that said "Jesus Food." Someone from national television came to interview us. I looked like the biggest Jesus freak so they wanted to interview me. With my no sex (before marriage) T-shirt & a big one-foot cross around my neck, I was shoved in front of the camera telling them why we were there. I explained how Jesus has a heart for "The Gathering" and that we felt that Jesus wanted us to demonstrate His love.

While we fed people we had many opportunities to tell people about Jesus. I asked one girl I was speaking with if I could pray for her and she agreed. When we finished praying she explained how she had tried to kill herself once, but she knew that God had not allowed it to happen. While she said this I could sense the Holy Spirit around us. I asked her if she wanted to give her life to Jesus. She said she did and she prayed to receive Christ right there!

During the festival we were able to talk with many people about what Jesus did on the cross and how He changed our lives. We also were able to pray with a lot of the crew, and DJ's about different things in their lives. It was such a privilege to represent Jesus in a place where usually there isn't any attention given to Him.

www.steiger.org

Fishing where the Fish are Biting

A word from the Prodigal Project:

Since the 60's there has existed a community of nomadic youth who travel around following bands. Once in Wyoming a baffled local asked us if we were "in the parade" that was going through town. What she had observed was the strange ritual of thousands of hippies driving VW vans and school buses from one concert to the next. This was "tour." "Shakedown Street" is the mobile main street of every venue whether it be in Pennsylvania or Peoria. Here kids sell crafts and drugs, look for free tickets (called a "Miracle"), get high and "swilly" (drunk), and hang out and meet people. It looks like a big fun party, but kids leave many shows in ambulances or police cars.

Our approach is to have a continual presence in the scene, building relationships and sharing the Gospel in the context of friendship. These youth are very hostile to "mainstream" culture (what they call "Babylon") so we try to integrate into the hippie culture as much as we can without compromising the Word of God. This helps to remove unnecessary barriers and makes it easier for the kids to trust us. Isn't this after all what God did when he became a first century Jew?

We've now ministered in 26 states and Canada. We go primarily to music venues, and focus on events that draw large numbers of hippie youth; events like Furthur Fest Tour, Phish Tour, Reggae shows, and Jazz Fest in New Orleans. At these events we serve food, give out socks and toothbrushes (a real blessing on the road), tracts and Bibles. We talk to and pray for as many people as we can, always thrilled when the power of God comes to touch hearts and heal bodies. An often seen bumper sticker reads: "What a long strange trip it's been." Amen to that!

<http://www.prodigalproject.org/land.shtml>

Action Ministries International Share Jesus at the Olympics

Volunteers with Action Ministries International walked the streets and road the buses of Salt Lake City dressed in a unique "uniform" of red, white, and black jackets, black cowboy hats with colorful flag bandannas, and a plethora of Olympic trading pins. The ministry includes teams of sports evangelists and sports chaplains who wanted to share the love of Jesus with both the locals and the international people who attended the Olympic Winter Games. The trading pins opened up many doors for the group to get to know the people passing by and tell them about the truth of Jesus Christ. The non-denominational group, based in West Point, Georgia, took their first team to the Calgary and Seoul Olympics in 1988, and have attended major sporting events around the world since then. They were given the opportunity to share with many people and pray with them to receive Jesus Christ into their hearts as they walked around at the Olympic Square in downtown Salt Lake City, traveled to Park City, and went to local malls and streets where people sometimes waited for hours to pass through security gates.

www.jesusjournal.com

Darrell Scott: Wednesday, February 27th, 2002

From a Stout Student: I have one thing to say about Rachel Joy Scott, "Wow!" I never really knew the intricate details of the horrible tragedy that took place at Columbine on April 20th, 1999. I was nineteen then and I could care less about what was going on around the world. I was pretty self-centered and needless to say, I had not yet found Jesus. Darrell Scott's presentation of the life of his beloved daughter was outstanding. I have heard from a lot of students around campus that they thought it was too religious. I didn't think so at all. Rachel had a very deep and meaningful relationship with the Lord and that couldn't help but come out in her journals and in her father's presentation. Darrell had video clips from NBC that were aired on the day of the shootings, which I had never seen. He also had clips from friends and family who wanted to tell the world what Rachel had done for them. Rachel knew her whole life that she was going to die young. She knew that she wouldn't live long enough to get married or have children. She knew that she would be famous and would "touch the hearts and lives of millions." I would encourage you to attend one of Darrell Scott's presentations in the near future. It will give you a whole new meaning of the word *life!*

See www.racheljoyscott.com for details!



Corner

Beatnik's

Feels Fake?

"I love God,"
 I always say.
 But in my heart
 It's never stayed.
 Sundays - church.
 All nights - out.
 That's plain 'how it is'
 When you're at Stout.
 Religious Organizations
 I know well.
 All of their gods
 They try to sell.
 When I'm in church
 It seems so fake.
 The lame forced smiles
 I just can't take.
 Is there more to life
 Than all of this?
 So many questions.
 So many myths.
 What should I do?
 Why am I here?
 Future keeps coming.
 I'm gaining fear.
 I grab the Bible
 And start to read.
 My crying heart
 Begins to plead.
 "Speak to me God,
 If you're really there.
 It says that you love me.
 It says that you care."
 He tuned my ears,
 And opened my heart.
 I heard His voice...
 "A whole new start!
 Your sins - forgiven.
 Your slate - clean.
 Your heart I've heard,
 And your need I've seen.
 From this day forward,
 Through eternity,
 Adventures await you,
 Your purpose you'll see!"

Delhi House ♦ Sewa Ashram

Rehabilitation for the Destitute
 HIV-TB Clinic, Home for
 Different Abled Children,
 Community of the Poor

A PROJECT OF
 DELHI HOUSE

DELHI HOUSE NEWSLETTER,
 JANUARY 2002:

Seated in a rickshaw, driving the ancient road passing Jehanabad, my rickshaw-driver stopped at a traffic-square where thousands of doves were gathered. By the birdfood-wallah he bought some seeds and scattered these around as a farmer sows his seeds. Feeding God, sowing seeds, feeding the Divine, the "Supreme Being" in the fragile birds-body. "God is All in All" this rickshaw-wallah knows, "when I feed God He will feed me", "when I remember God He will remember me!" When we were about to leave again, a beggar stopped him. The beggar folded hands eager to receive. My rickshaw-driver knew better. "God will take care, I just fed Him". I am very impressed with the rickshaw-wallah. Had he given money, many other beggars would have harassed him; it would turn into confusion and riot and he would not have enough money left to feed his family, a nagging woman and crying children at home; no this really would be out of cosmic order. Instead he remembers God as soon as he sees a flock of doves and trusts He will take care.

After the rickshaw-wallah dropped me at the rescue-center I took a stroll down to the park, stepping over pigs, playing children, potholes and rubble. Of all the huddled shadows in the park a mother and child stood out. She had given birth to a baby in the night. While leaning without strength on her arm she revealed the corpse of a newborn baby. The intricate blue veins standing out on the white parchment skin. So pure a creature still tied to the placenta, a baby in rags, dirty, soiled in blood. Next to the poor mother sits her tiny daughter, two years old, too small for her age, emaciated. An old wise face. The utter helplessness of this little family struck me with force. I

wrapped up the dead baby and placed it with the mother in a rickshaw. I carried the little girl in my arms and together, the haggard looking woman seated in the rickshaw, the dead child at her feet and some destitute hobbling behind, formed a rather tragic procession on our way to the Rescue-center.

At present Priiti and her daughter Yesuda are living at Sewa Ashram. They are both in a safe condition. Yesuda starts to smile, Priiti starts to find excuses to go back to the park. She is a heroine addict. Priiti uses the needle and it is a miracle that she is not HIV-infected. I tell her to stay, I tell her to take care of her child. There are more women and girls living at Sewa Ashram. Yesuda goes from arm to arm and is showered with affection. Another girl combs Priiti's hair with a lice-comb.

Malama sits in the wheelchair and explains that yes she can walk but no she won't, it is better for a beggar to not walk, she would lose her income. She wants to go away with one-legged Suresh. No need to beg for money anymore, her Father will feed her.

After torture with an electrical appliance by some relatives, a 19 year old pregnant girl, Pinky, was discarded by an uncle under our bridge in Yamuna Bazaar, far from her family-home. In the streets abuse was heaped on abuse. Bad boys would throw stones at her. She does not understand the baby growing in her; she thinks somebody is beating her from the inside.

And then Anita, 18 years old. An alcoholic by birth, her father, her mother. Heroine, sexually abused by hungry junkies. Now she sits in a wheelchair, ravaged, not able to walk, crying for a quick fix.

-From Ton and the Team

(tonbaba@delhihouse.org)

For the rest of this newsletter and more info about Delhi House and Steiger International check out: www.steiger.org

Street Level Ministries continues to support Delhi House both prayerfully and financially.



THE MUSIC STATION

Aweosome new music on the scene today!

WHERE TO BUY IT!

Music Force
www.musicforce.com

777 Music
www.777music.com

Christian Music Exchange
www.members.aol.com/cmX

IndependentBands.com
www.independentbands.com

IN DRIVING RANGE

Calvary Chapel Bookstore
621 Wilson Avenue
Menomonie, WI
1.715.235.9300

Chippewa's Christian Book
307 N. Bridge Street
Chippewa, WI
1.715.738.9953

Cornerstone Christian Gifts
324 Main Street
Stillwater, WI
1.651.439.4062

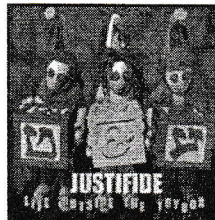
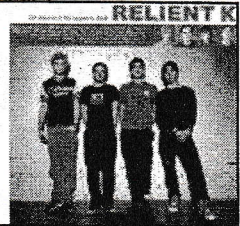
The Dreamcoat Café
215 S. Main Street
Stillwater, MN
1.651.430.0651

Christian Bookstore
206 Bush Street
Red Wing, MN

(Relient K: The Anatomy Of Tongue In Cheek)
Gotee Records

fourth album featuring an artful fusion of
hard rock, funk, hip-hop and reggae

Relient K has recently been added to the
Annual Asbury Park Skate n' Surf music festival!
www.relientk.com www.skateandsurffest.com



(Justifide: Life Outside The Toybox)
Ardent Records

hardcore rock with an artful fusion of hard rock,
funk, hip-hop and reggae as cutting edge as
anything in Christian or mainstream music

Justifide is scheduled to play at the New Union in
Minneapolis! For more info, call 612-781-8488

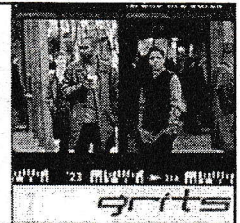
www.justifide.com www.newunion.org

(Grits: Grammatical Revolution)
Gotee Records

eclectic hip-hop with a tasty morsel of
gospel goodness in every bite

Grits7.com has in 4 songs in Real Audio form from
this album for you to download and listen to!

www.grits7.com



COMING IN CONCERT ...

April 5th



Big Fat Jam

70s Groove-
Rock

May 3rd



Beki
Hemingway

alterna-pop

September 14th



Yeshuapoloosa

an outdoor Jesus music fest
Wilson Park, Menomonie

Concerts start at 7pm at the Blind Munchies Coffeehouse 621 Wilson Avenue Menomonie
No Cover Ever!

All shows will be broadcast LIVE on 101.1 FM One Way Radio



CELEBRITY • DISH

Rock star Alice Cooper shocked the world in the 1970s with an alcohol-fueled stage show that explored taboos ranging from murder to necrophilia. Years later he shocked the rock world by quietly embracing Christianity. Cooper has rarely talked about his faith, but in an exclusive October, 2000 interview with Lonny Friend, editor of the on-line rock magazine KNAC.COM, Cooper spoke at length about his drinking days, faith in God, and views on the shock-rockers who are following in his footsteps. Cooper said he was introduced to alcohol when he began his music career, and drank heavily for the next 15 years. "I was a totally functional alcoholic, probably the most functional alcoholic ever. I never missed a show. I never stumbled. I never slurred a word. I mean I was the Dean Martin of rock n' roll," he told KNAC.COM.

Cooper said divine intervention is what broke his drinking habit in the mid-1980s. "I honestly think I was simply and completely healed," he said. "I guess you can call it a miracle. It's the only way I can explain it. It was absolutely eliminated from my life."

Cooper has often been called the model for today's shock-rockers, including Marilyn Manson. While he doesn't criticize Manson for his on-stage theatrics, Cooper takes issue with Manson's anti-Christian stance.

"He's very vocal about it," Cooper told KNAC.COM. "I believe [the Manson album] Anti-Christ Superstar was pointed right directly at me. I didn't volley the first shots in this whole thing. His whole anti-Christian thing, and I'm like 'Hey, I'm Christian, and I'm not going to denounce what I believe.' I can be a rock 'n' roll star, a Christian and Alice Cooper."

Cooper continued, "I think Marilyn had a really bad

Christian experience when he was younger. My guess is he got involved with some less-than-Christian-Christians and that really, forgive the expression, nailed him. You know, he's one of the greatest button pushers I've ever met. And I know that game because I invented that game...Manson clicked because he found a whole new set of buttons to push, he even pushed my buttons, which is pretty impressive since I was pushing buttons before he was born."

Cooper's embrace of Christianity was more a return to faith than a coming to faith. "I was pretty much convinced all my life that there was just one God and there was Jesus Christ and there was the Devil," he said. "You couldn't believe in God without believing in the Devil. I always tell bands that the most dangerous thing you can do is to believe in the concept of the Devil or the concept of God, because you're not giving them full credit. When you believe in God, you've got to believe in the all-powerful God. He's not just God, He's the all-powerful God and He has total control over everyone's life. The Devil, on the other hand, is a real character that's trying his hardest to tear your life apart. If you believe that this is just mythology, you're a prime target because you know that's exactly what Satan wants: To be a myth. But

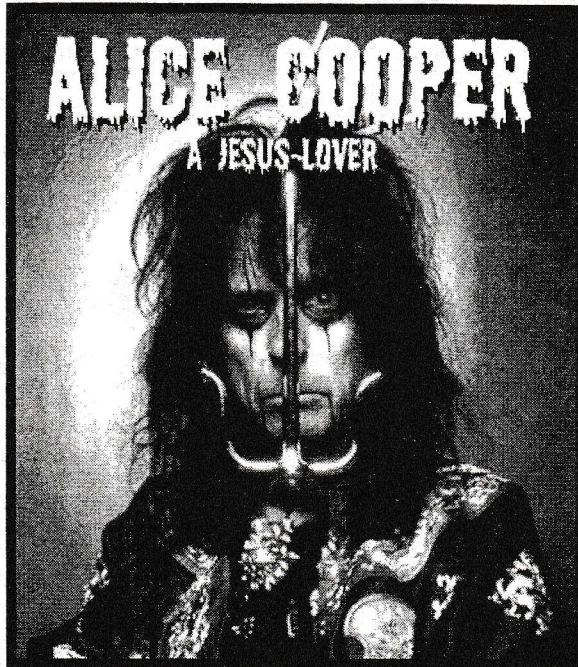
he's not a myth, of this I'm totally convinced. More than anything in the world, I'm convinced of that."

Cooper continued, "We have to make a choice. And everybody, at some point in their lives, has to make that choice. When people say, 'How do you believe this? Why do you believe this?' I just say nothing else speaks to my heart. This doesn't

speak to my intellect, it doesn't speak to my logic - it speaks right to my heart and right to my soul, deeper than anything I've ever thought of. And I totally believe it. That being said, I'm not a very good Christian. I mean, none of us are ever 'good' Christians. That's not the point. When you're a Christian, it doesn't mean you're gonna be good, it means you've got a harder road to pull."

Though some have questioned combining his faith in God with his rock-and-roll background, Cooper doesn't see a conflict. "I'm the first one to rock as loud as I can, but when it comes to what I believe, I'm the first one to defend it too," he said. "It has also gotten me in trouble with the staunch Christians who believe that in order to be a Christian you have to be

on your knees 24 hours a day in a closet somewhere. Hey, maybe some people can live like that, but I don't think that's the way God expected us to live. When Christ came back, He hung out with the whores, the drunks and miscreants because they were people that needed Him. Christ never spent His time with the Pharisees."



But while Cooper may still speak to some of his old themes, he has a new message today. "I used to celebrate moral decay, the decadence of it," he admitted. "I can look back on what I did then and what I'm doing now and they're two different things. But at the time I was the poster

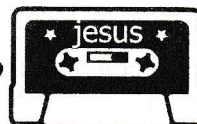
boy for moral decay, you know. So yeah, I've got a lot to be forgiven for...out of ignorance, I thought I was doing the right thing. I was totally in agreement that every guy should sleep with every girl and drink as much as they can. I don't believe that now. I don't believe in it, because I see how destructive it is."

Spiritual awakening is happening around the world, Cooper believes. "It's obvious humanity is craving for answers directly born of awareness," he said. "That's the healthiest thing I've seen in a long time because there is something better and everybody's gotta find it in their own way. People aren't feeling fulfilled by how many cars they own or the size of their stock portfolio. Even the addicts are saying, 'It doesn't matter how many drugs I take, I'm not fulfilled. This isn't satisfying.' There's a spiritual hunger going on. Everybody feels it. If you don't feel it now, you will. Trust me. You will."

EP News Service
www.jesusjournal.com

tape review

a bible teaching extra



There are a lot of jokes about a little red guy in a suit, and we like to get dressed up for Halloween and run around with little pitchforks. We are wild and crazy and say things like, "The devil made me do it," to make light of them. I think the majority of the population doesn't actually think that Satan is real and if he is, maybe he just sits down in hell with his pitchfork. That is what I thought. I didn't really think there was a war between good and evil going on—or more specifically, between God and the Devil. I didn't know I was on the wrong side—the losing side of the war. It wasn't until God reached me and opened my eyes that I was able to see the magnitude of the battle that has been raging for years and years.

The truth is that Satan is real. He was actually the worship leader in heaven and described as the most beautiful angel of all angels. He decided he wanted to be God and this pride led to his fall from heaven. God could not reside with Satan who exalted himself above God. This began the ugly war that is still going on today. Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden and broke their perfect relationship with God. Because of this we are born sinners who need our sins washed away and our relationship with God restored. God sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins and rise again to make a relationship with God available to us.

Before we accept this free offer from God, we are actually fighting against God and following the unloving commander, Satan himself. We may not be doing strange things with blood in the woods, but we are still not following the true and living God. Satan is trying his hardest to keep anyone he can from entering into a personal relationship with God.

He puts distraction upon distraction in front of unbelievers so they choose a life of sin rather than a life with God. God is all-knowing, all-powerful, present everywhere, and everything about God is good. Satan doesn't possess any of these qualities. Hmmm....I wonder who the winner is?

In the last issue of Word on the Street, there was a tape review of tape #1 in Pastor John Duncan's Spiritual Warfare tape series. Pastor John Duncan, senior pastor at Calvary Chapel Lake Elsinore, California, teaches what the Bible has to say about the war between God and His following and Satan and his following. Tape #1 presented some attributes that people who follow God must possess in order to stand strong in the midst of spiritual war. In this

THE TRUTH IS THAT SATAN IS REAL

tape series, Pastor Duncan teaches eleven principles of war that must be complied with in order to win the battle. Tape #2 covers two of the eleven principles of war—objective and offensive. The following is just a brief review of this eye-opening teaching tape.

The first principle of war is *objective*. It is very important that those fighting in a war know what their goal is. If you don't know what your objective is, won't you just wander around aimlessly without much zeal and true devotion? Isn't it possible that you could get a little confused and start helping the enemy? When a person has accepted God's offer to save them and is fighting on God's side, their clear objective is to go into all of the world and share the Good News of Jesus Christ. This means going to your classes at Stout or going to your jobsite and daily sharing Jesus with people who don't yet know Him. The only way you gain ground as a soldier in

this war is when one more person is won to Jesus Christ.

The second principle of war is *offensive*. Offensive is the aggressive advance on the enemy to take an object from his possession. Soldiers of Jesus Christ need to stay on the offensive. To be on the defensive is actually to be on the losing side; the defender has to wait and wonder where he is going to be attacked next. When a person actively marches around this earth telling everyone he can about the love of God, he is on the offensive. All Satan can do is stand and wonder what God's soldier is going to do next.

The truth about psychology is also briefly touched upon in the tape and possibly to the offense of many. For some reason, many followers of God have mistakenly turned to the world of psychology when certain problems arise in their lives rather

than just praying for each other and giving the problem over to God. Psychology offers only kindness and temporary cures instead of the lasting love and complete healing of God. Soldiers of God need to flee the worldly wisdom of man and depend solely on the awesome strength of the Almighty God.

If you would like to hear more about being equipped for the battle we are in, you can purchase your own copy of this Spiritual Warfare tape by Pastor John Duncan and the rest of the series at the Calvary Chapel Bookstore—621 Wilson Ave. Menomonie, Wisconsin (715-235-4977).

In the next issue, tape #3 in the Spiritual Warfare series will be reviewed. Tape #3 explores three more principles of war—concentration, mobility, and security. Check it out!

Love

So I went ahead and did it. I looked up "Love" on a search engine on my computer. I wasn't quite sure what I'd find. I was sure that there would be porn, sex, food, cars, and money. I was really shocked at what I found. None of those things came up. What I found was a billion sites for dating, romance, and finding that perfect someone. Everyone is looking for love, including me.

What exactly is love? Is it a feeling, an emotion inside you? Is it a verb, an action you decide to do? Is it an act of your will?

I used to think that I loved my friends because I had these great feelings for them. Then I started wondering about the days that I didn't feel that way. Did that mean I didn't love them?

Then I realized that I can have great wonderful feelings about the ones I love, but the actual love part was a decision, an act of my will. We choose to love people. I choose to act lovingly.

I learned it's not about emotions, but about giving. It's about doing selfless acts that benefit only the other person-- that's Love.

love is patient (suffers long)
love is kind
love is not jealous
love is not boastful
love is not puffed up with pride
love is not rude
love does not demand its own way
love is not provoked or irritable
love keeps no record of wrongs
love is never glad about injustice
love rejoices when the truth wins

love never gives up
love never loses faith
love is always hopeful
love endures through every circumstance
Love will last forever.

"Everybody wants somebody to love." I'm not so sure about that. I think it's more like everybody wants somebody to love them. We all want to be loved. We want someone to be kind to us, to not keep a record of our wrongs, to be patient with us and not be provoked and irritable. We want someone who is for us and will endure through every circumstance.

Great News! There is someone who already loves you in all of these ways! He thinks about you all the time.

See personal ad on page 7!

Sources:

The New Living Bible--1 Corinthians 13

THE GATHERING


street level campus rendezvous

NEW
Get a Life!

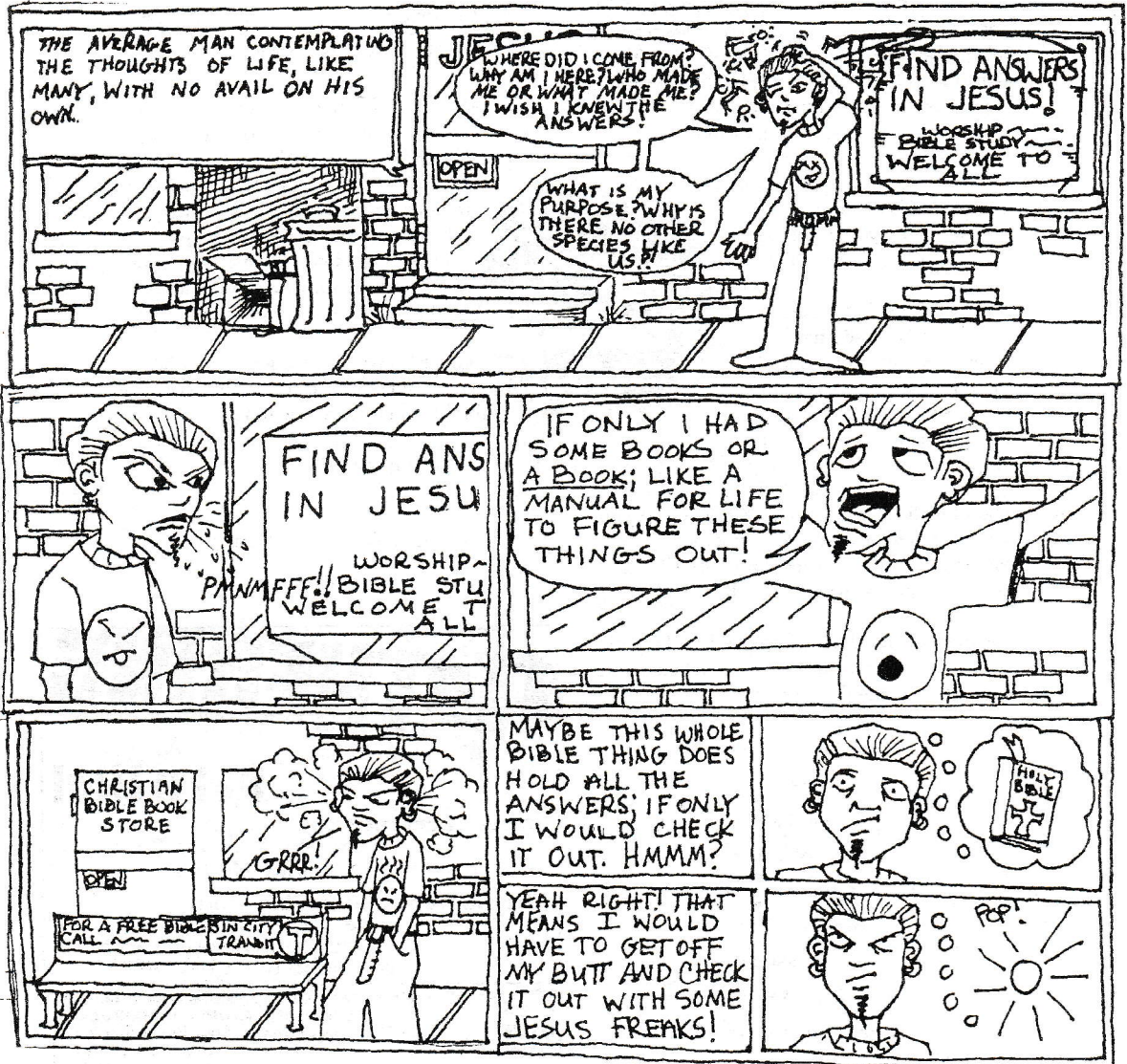
Street Level meets at 6:00pm
in the Northwoods Room
on Monday Nights

The Gathering (our bible study)
meets at 7:00pm
in the Northwoods Room
on Monday nights

LET'S SEE → **There's Killer Worship, Bible Study, Love, Fellowship, Coffee, Punk Rock, Coffeehouse, Jesus, Heaven, Purpose any reason why you shouldn't join us?**



The Life Of Joe Missinit



JOE REALLY DOES SEEM TO BE MISSIN' IT, HUH?

Will poor Joe ever realize the answers to his questions?

Yeah, But what do these words *really* mean?

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of ¹power and of love and a ²sound mind.” 2 Timothy 1:7 (NKJ)



1) **POWER** \\'paü(- ə)r\\ n
force (literally or figuratively):
miraculous power - ability, abundance,
meaning, might (-ily, -y, -y deed),
miracle, strength

2) **SOUND MIND** \\'saünd\\ adj
self-control, moderation; to moderate,
to disciple, restore one to his senses,
to hold one to his duty

“He who ³trusts in his own heart is
a ⁴fool, but whoever walks wisely
will be ⁵delivered.” Proverbs 28:26
(NKJ)

3) **TRUST** \\'trəst\\ n
to be confident or sure - be bold
(confident, sure, careless) put confidence,
hope, trust

4) **FOOL** \\'fü\\ n
stupid fellow, dullard,
simpleton, arrogant one

5) **DELIVER** \\di-'liv-ər\\ vb
save, get away, preserve, to release or rescue,
leap out, let go, to escape

Street Level Ministries
621 Wilson Ave.
Menomonie, WI 54751



FROM HATRED TO LOVE

and despair to joy

From fear to peace

and death to life.

"What this means is that those who become Christians become new persons. They are not the same anymore, for the old life is gone. A new life has begun!" 2 Corinthians 5:17